

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the objections and rejections contained in the Office Action of June 9, 2009 is respectfully requested.

As an initial matter, the Examiner objected to Figures 1-3 as requiring a "Prior Art" label. In view of this objection, new formal Figures 1-3 have been prepared and submitted herewith in order to include the required "Prior Art" label. Consequently, it is submitted that the Examiner's objection to the drawings has been overcome.

The Examiner rejected all of previously-pending claims 11-22 on the grounds of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 7,191,030. However, a Terminal Disclaimer has now been prepared and submitted herewith. In view of the submission of this Terminal Disclaimer, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the double patenting rejections.

On pages 5-9 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 11-12, 14-16, 18-19, and 21 as being unpatentable over the Guillermin reference (USP 5,806,198) in view of the Kilian reference (USP 5,304,773), and further in view of the Susnjara reference (USP 6,480,757); and rejected claim 17 as being unpatentable over the Guillermin reference in view of the Kilian reference and the Susnjara reference, and further in view of the Haga reference (USP 5,497,234). However, at the bottom of page 7 of the Office Action, the Examiner also indicated that previously-pending dependent claims 13, 20 and 22 contain allowable subject matter.

In view of the above, each of independent claims 11, 14, and 21 has now been amended so as to incorporate the subject matter of a respective one of the allowable dependent claims. In particular, independent claim 11 has now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 13, independent claim 14 has now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 20, and independent claim 21 has now been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable dependent claim 22. Consequently, in view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 11, 14, and 21, as well as the claims that depend therefrom, are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner should have any comments or suggestions to help speed the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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